State of Palestine
Ministry of Health
Minister's Office

دولـــة فـلسـطين
وزارة الصحة
مكتب الوزير

Updated Report: Thursday 16th May 2024

223 days of the Israeli aggression against Gaza

Daily Report on the Effects of the Israeli Aggression in Palestine

Catastrophic situation in numbers; the deadliest year for Palestinians

From October 7th until May 16th , 2024

Some of the information contained in this report is as of Wednesday evening, 15th of May 2024.

The Emergency Operations Center at the Ministry of Health in Ramallah supervises the data collection process through its offices in Gaza. Numbers are updated every 24 hours. These numbers reflect confirmed statistics only but do not necessarily reflect all victims due to the fact that many victims are still missing under the rubble.

The escalating atrocities in Palestine because of Israeli occupation aggression surpass mere numerical reporting, constituting severe violations of all human rights. The health system is deliberately targeted, amounting to genocide on the Palestinian people. This insufferable situation demands immediate intervention. We call upon all international humanitarian and health organizations to urgently enter Gaza, ensuring protection for health workers, facilities, and civilians. Tangible advocacy and pressure for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the ongoing siege on Gaza is imperative to halt this humanitarian crisis.[1][2][3]

Overview:

- As of May 15, 2024, the number of martyrs in Gaza since October 7, 2023 is about 35,250 Palestinians as a result of Israeli occupation aggression, with a staggering 72% being women and children.
- Over 79,200 Palestinians have been injured, with many facing severe trauma and life-threatening conditions.
- Approximately 10 thousand individuals are still missing under the rubble of destroyed buildings.
- Targeting of medical facilities like Nasser, Al Amal, and Al Khair hospitals has exacerbated the crisis, depriving civilians of lifesaving treatment.
- Dire shortages of food, water, and essential supplies have left civilians vulnerable to hunger, thirst, and disease.

[1] https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/11/gaza-un-experts-call-international-community-prevent-genocide-against

[2] https://www.un.org/unispal/document/gaza-un-experts-decry-bombing-of-hospitals-and-schools-as-crimes-against-humanity-call-for-prevention-of-genocide/

[3] https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20231229-pre-01-00-en.pdf?fbclid=PAAaanjzZcW1N3X8xUa5n2vOtSmJXRZGtuX25ee7DicJ6lvDv9355FU9Nco_w_aem_Af1J7V-j8tYZ0pM_D1CQooNZ6b2lctzS9pzFrRP92oaCO9tBVKTDkMB8DYqdS1aGUDk

- Unexploded ordnance poses additional risks to public safety, hindering humanitarian aid efforts.

Forced Displacement:

- An estimated 85% of Gaza's population, around 1.93 million individuals, have been forcibly displaced.
- Nearly 1.4 million displaced persons seek refuge in overcrowded UNRWA facilities, exacerbating their vulnerability.
- On 6 May, the Israeli occupation forces ordered the residents of nine blocks in eastern Rafah to move other area in Al Mawassi, This evacuation order extends to approximately 31 square kilometers, affecting around 64,000 Palestinians.

Healthcare Access and Challenges:

- Efforts to scale up assistance are hampered by limited access and ongoing security challenges.
- Critical shortages of medical personnel and supplies, including anesthesia and antibiotics, are leaving healthcare workers struggling to save lives.
- WHO reports a significant rise in cases of infectious diseases, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive healthcare interventions.

Public Health Crisis:

- Gaza faces a public health catastrophe due to unsafe water resources, overcrowding, and lack of basic hygiene needs.
- Increasing temperatures worsen the sanitation crisis, impacting over 1.7 million forcibly displaced individuals.
- The lack of safe drinking water exposes civilians to waterborne diseases and dehydration.
- Dire water and sanitation conditions, coupled with overcrowding, have led to a surge in preventable illnesses and premature death.

Infrastructure Damage:

- The Municipality of An Nusseirat reported extensive damage to infrastructure, including roads, water wells, sewage networks, and desalination plants.
- Sewage overflow and waste accumulation in the streets and around shelters for IDPs pose significant public health risks.
- The lack of fuel further exacerbates the situation, hindering the functionality of essential services and necessitating urgent international support.

Recorded Attacks on Health Facilities and Personnel:

- Since October 7, 2023, there have been 378 recorded attacks on healthcare facilities and personnel by Israeli forces.
- 32 hospitals and 35 health care centers were out of service as a result of their targeting by the Israeli occupying forces.
- 500 personnel were martyred in the health sector, more than 310 were arrested by the Israeli occupying forces, Hundreds were injured and 130 ambulances were destroyed by the occupying forces.
- Deliberate targeting of medical infrastructure has left civilians without access to essential healthcare services.

Situation in the West Bank:

- Since October 7, 2023, 502 Palestinians have been martyred, and about 5000 have been injured across the West Bank and Jerusalem.
- WHO reports over 340 attacks on healthcare facilities and personnel in the West Bank since October 7, 2023.
- The Israeli occupation's intensified movement restrictions have further exacerbated the humanitarian crisis in the West Bank, limiting access to essential healthcare services for the population. The widespread displacement of Palestinians, coupled with the destruction of residential structures and infrastructure, has left thousands without access to basic necessities and exposed them to heightened risks of disease, injury, and death.

Urgent Needs:

- Immediate cessation of Israeli aggression to prevent further loss of life.
- Implementation of international humanitarian laws to protect health institutions and civilians.
- Unconditional entry of humanitarian supplies into Gaza to address critical shortages.
- Assistance in evacuating the wounded for lifesaving medical care abroad.
- Halting forcible displacement of civilians and supporting search and rescue operations.

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